

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 18, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 781**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Lieber**

*(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Nakano)*

*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Chan, Chavez, Chu, Cox, Diaz, Dymally, Hancock, Laird, Levine, Liu, Longville, Maze, Montanez, Nakanishi, Pavley, Reyes, and Yee)*

*(Coauthors: Senators Kuehl and Romero)*

February 19, 2003

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An act to add Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 51430) to Chapter 3 of Part 28 of the Education Code, relating to public schools.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 781, as amended, Lieber. ~~World War II internees: high school diplomas.~~ *Retroactive high school diplomas.*

Existing law sets forth the requirements for the issuance of high school diplomas or equivalency certificates.

This bill would, notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, authorize a high school district ~~or a~~, unified school district, ~~or county office of education~~, to *retroactively* grant a high school diploma to a ~~person~~ *former pupil* who *served in and was honorably discharged from the United States military or who was ordered interned by the federal government during World War II if it makes prescribed findings in the United States during prescribed time periods.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 51430) is added to Chapter 3 of Part 28 of the Education Code, to read:

Article 3.5. High School Diplomas for World War II *Veterans and Internees*

51430. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a high school district ~~or a, unified school district, or county office of education, may grant a high school diploma to a person who was interned by order of the federal government during World War II if it finds that the person was retroactively grant a high school diploma to a person who has not received a high school diploma if he or she meets any of the following conditions:~~

(1) *The person attended a high school operated by the school district or under the jurisdiction of the county office of education at any time from 1937 to 1940, inclusive, and either served in the United States military at any time from September 16, 1940, to December 31, 1946, inclusive, and was honorably discharged, or was interned in a relocation camp within the United States at any time from September 16, 1940, to December 31, 1946, inclusive.*

(2) *The person attended a high school operated by the school district or under the jurisdiction of the county office of education at any time from 1946 to 1950, inclusive, and served in the United States military at any time from June 25, 1950, to January 31, 1955, and was honorably discharged.*

(b) *In order to qualify for a diploma pursuant to subdivision (a), the person must have been enrolled in the school district high school immediately preceding his or her military service or internment and did not receive a high school diploma because the pupil's education was interrupted due to his or her military service or internment during World War II.*